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Local Students Bring Waste Prevention and Composting Eduction in Schools Presentation to Mayor

On June 2nd, groups of local elementary and middle school students presented information about their conservation efforts to a group comprised of Mayor Piercy, City of Eugene staff, fellow students, teachers and family members.

Led by Tim Whitley, 4J's Energy and Water Conservation Grant Coordinator, students from Spencer Butte Middle School gave a comprehensive presentation highlighting the history of waste prevention education in their school, and providing detailed information about the volume of food waste that their cafeteria redirects into the City's Love Food Not Waste Composting program.

In a presentation of their own, Meadow View School 4th grade students brought examples of upcycled and reused items to share with the group, and with help from Cathy Bechen, Bethel District's Waste Reduction and SPLASH Grant Coordinator, they shared "I Can Make a Difference", in which they illustrated all that they had learned about reducing waste and recycling over the school year, accompanied by carefully crafted posters.



Waste Prevention and Green Building staff continues to support efforts by 4J and Bethel District personnel to ensure that Waste Prevention Curriculum is developed, tested, and implemented in local schools to educate children about composting and waste reduction.

To learn more about how the City supports waste prevention and composting education in schools, or for more information about our Partners in Education program, contact Waste Prevention and Green Building Program Coordinator Deveron Musgrave at deveron.r.musgrave@ci.eugene.or.us or 541-682-6842.

TOP



Mural Project Transforms Eugene Intersection

An intersection in South Eugene received a colorful transformation last weekend as a result of a unique collaboration that included connections to several areas of the organization. In an effort to build community, inspire neighborhood pride and increase safety around the intersection of Olive and 26th, volunteers sweated through record-breaking heat to complete a large mural in the middle of the intersection. Community members from the surrounding neighborhood spent much of the day painting the colorful design that was a result of input received at a series of meetings.



The mural represents the culmination of a collaboration between area neighbors and students in the University of Oregon's "Real World Eugene" course in the fall of 2015. The project was the primary focus of a student project team that was creating a guidebook to "tactical urbanism," a way to make small, often community-member led changes to the built environment that can build community and contribute to livability. City staff assisted with the class by serving as a resource to the project team. Fittingly, the students felt that the best way to learn about tactical urbanism was to implement an actual project, which provided a unique, hands-on learning opportunity.

Area neighbors applied for and were awarded a Neighborhood Matching Grant from the City to assist with the cost of materials. This was augmented by donations from local businesses. A crew from Public Works made a brief visit the

day before to sweep the intersection and seal cracks. To learn more about the project or see additional photos, visit www.facebook.com/EugeneIntersectionRepair or contact Jason Dedrick at 541-682-5033 or jason.p.dedrick@ci.eugene.or.us.

TOP



Fuels Reduction, Habitat Restoration and a New Trail Underway Soon at Wild Iris Ridge Park

The City of Eugene Parks and Open Space Division is hosting a public tour of Wild Iris Ridge on June 14 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. The tour is intended to provide an opportunity for those close to the park to learn and ask questions about projects lined up for this summer including habitat restoration and the creation of a new public trail.

The habitat restoration projects goals are to restore the site's oak savannas and woodlands while improving conditions for wildlife, reducing wildfire risk, enhancing forest health, and providing native ecosystems for enjoyment by the community. Protecting and restoring these habitats has been identified by many organizations and planning efforts as a conservation priority in Oregon, with some of the best remaining oak habitat found in and around Eugene. The work is being funded through a grant from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to the Long Tom Watershed Council, a valued partner of the City of Eugene.



The project will also reduce the vulnerability of the area to the hazards of wildfire. This project implements actions identified in the <u>2008 Lane County Community Wildfire Protection Plan</u> and the <u>2014 Multi-jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan</u> to reduce long term risk to people, property, and critical infrastructure from wildfire hazards.

To accomplish both goals, a small forestry crew will remove overstocked and encroaching trees, primarily Douglas fir, from oak habitats using restoration forestry practices.



Trail work will also get underway this summer with the creation of 1.35 miles of shared use trail starting at Bertelsen Road and winding up to Bailey View.

AmeriCorps NCCC youth began working on the trail this past winter. The Northwest Youth Corps will be picking up this work in late June. The work is funded through the City's capital program and was identified in the Eugene Trails Plan (2016) as a top priority for completion in the next five years. Project activities are planned for late June through the end of October.

For more information about the habitat project, please contact Ecologist Emily Steel at emily.c.steel@ci.eugene.or.us, or call 541-682-4874. For more information about the trail project, please contact Pam Symond at pamela.s.symond@ci.eugene.or.us, or call 541-682-4913.



International Town & Gown Association Conference Coming to Eugene

Eugene and the University of Oregon were announced this week as the host site for the 2017 International Town & Gown Association (ITGA) conference by UO and City representatives attending the 2016 conference in Chicago. As a community with three higher education institutions and ever-developing relationships between them and municipal government, Eugene is well-suited as a host city.

The International Town & Gown Association is the premier resource for addressing challenges, emerging issues and opportunities between and amongst institutions of higher education and the communities in which they reside. The organization provides a network of professionals and resources that helps identify and share leading practices, innovative solutions and professional development opportunities for municipal and university communities. The University of Oregon and the City of Eugene are both active ITGA members.



Over the next year a planning committee with two dozen representatives from the UO, the City of Eugene, Lane Community College, Travel Lane County, and other partners will work with the ITGA board and staff to plan all aspects of the conference that typically attracts around 400 participants. Eugene is the first ITGA conference host city on the West Coast and the event will be among one of the first to be held in the new state-of-the-art conference facilities in the expanded Erb Memorial Union.

For more information, contact Mia Cariaga at mia.cariaga@ci.eugene.or.us or 541-682-5408.

TOP



High Praise for 2016 Enhanced Street Repair Program Project

Off to an early start, the first of two projects slated for the 2016 Enhanced Street Repair Program is completed, much to the delight of those who walk and bike in south Eugene. Starting the week of May 9, a crew contracted by the Public Works Maintenance Division paved an unimproved section of Fox Hollow Road, south of Donald Street to the City limits. Work included lane striping and substantial shoulder work. Within the first week of the project's completion, several residents expressed their gratitude for the work.



For a number of years, this section of Fox Hollow Road was a point of concern for residents. Not only did the poor surface conditions cause problems for cars and trucks, but those who walk and bike were also impacted because of shoulder conditions or lack of shoulder in many locations. Fox Hollow Road is a popular route for cyclists venturing south into rural Lane County and hikers accessing Spencer Butte's trail head just south of the city limits.

The other project scheduled for repairs under the Enhanced Street Repair Program this year is also a popular route for cyclists and pedestrians. Tentatively scheduled for mid-July, the Maintenance Division will repave Dillard Road, from 43rd Avenue to just short of the city limits. Similar to Fox Hollow Road, crews will explore opportunities to enhance the road's shoulders in order to provide pedestrians and cyclists an area to exit travel lanes. However, because of steep slopes and roadside ditches, areas to expand road shoulders are limited. A section of Dillard Road near the city limits is not included in the paving project due to slope movement which has impacted the road. Staff will monitor this section of road while evaluating other repair and funding options.

This year's projects are estimated to cost \$270,000, with the funding coming from the road operating funds. Since the program began in 2008, maintenance crews have repaired more than 100 unimproved streets. For more information, contact Eric Johnson, Surface Operation Manager, at 541-682-4904.



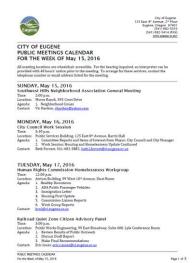
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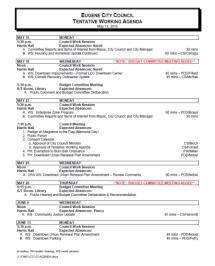
Links to Eugene City Council Resources

Mavor & City Council Webpage



Public Meetings Calendar Tentative Council Agenda





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